

Cambridge Cherryhinton Road Area Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
reported in Cambridge Newspapers
summarised by

Mike Petty

Most of these stories originally appeared in the Cambridge Daily/Evening/News or the Cambridgeshire Weekly News. They are supplemented by some articles published in the Cambridge Independent Press or Cambridge Chronicle

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library together with have detailed cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the 1960s.

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at bit.ly/CambsCollection.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check. There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – www.mikepetty.org.uk for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2017

Cambridge Cherryhinton Road area: stories of the area east of the railway line from Rustat Road in the north to Wort's Causeway in the south. It includes stories about that section of Hills Road south from the railway bridge. There is a separate *Hills Road Scrapbook* and a *Cherry Hinton Scrapbook* covering the area of the former village.

1897 05 27

The foundation stone of the new building of St John's church, Hills Road, Cambridge, was successfully laid on the 4th May last year. The first section was completed and consecrated December 15th, 1896. The result of opening the new building has amply justified the decision to hasten the commencement of the work. The congregations have been most encouraging and the average of the weekly collections doubled

1897 06 08

St John's church new window, p3

1898 09 03

Cherry Hinton is the meeting place of the old and new; a study in contrasts. St John's ward contains trim villas, modern residences, and a population increasing rapidly year by year. On the other hand, St Andrew's ward is intensely rural, the scene of scattered dwellings and old thatched gables. In short, St John's is suburban, while St Andrew's yet retains its agricultural character. Thus a drainage scheme is less needed in the latter than the former and the inhabitants of St Andrew's insist that they will have none of it, while in the former it has long been common knowledge that emphatically "something must be done", and that quickly, for the constantly growing population

1898 11 18

Cherry Hinton proposed division, p3

1901 08 21

The Star Brewery renewed its application for a proposed new hotel on the Hills Road, adjacent to Cambridge Cattle Market. There were farmers, dealers in cattle coming from Norwich and Essex who regularly attended the market, coming by train. It was desirable that they should sleep on the spot and take care of the cattle. Mr Grain said there was opposition from Homerton College, a ladies college. What on earth they opposed for he did not know. None of those young ladies, he was sure, would go near a public house

1902 02 25

Advert. New Year's Register. Sales & approximate price. Residences: De Freville Avenue £350, Guest Road £400; Mill Road £425, Hartington Grove £425, Malta Road £425, Huntingdon Road £450; Villas, Cherryhinton Road with land £850; modern town residences £1,000; terrace near Mill Road, (let for £100) £2,000; Country residence about 3½ acres, near station G.N.R. £2,000

1902 04 30

William Edwards of the Rock Estate, Cherry Hinton, applied for an exemption certificate from vaccination for his child, William. He had an exemption before and was more firmly convinced that vaccination was not required. His first child died through it and, if small pox broke out at Cherry Hinton, he would not, unless forced by law, consent to his child being vaccinated. If there were a loophole of escape from it he would not have the child done, if it cost him every stick of furniture he had got. The exemption was granted.

1902 07 18

Now his Majesty is on the high road to recovery many places are holding the festivities arranged in celebration of the Coronation. Out of sympathy for King Edward these were postponed and now while the bright summer days and long mild evenings are at their best the committees are taking the wise course of holding the jubilations rather than wait until a later stage in the year when there is a greater chance of unfavourable weather. Unfortunately St John's ward, Cherry Hinton picked upon early closing day and any shop employee will say that this is practically synonymous with rain. Nevertheless the festivities must be written of as a success.

1902 12 13

A meeting of residents in St John's Ward, Cherry Hinton considered what support could be given to a scheme for running a line of omnibuses into Cambridge. Now buses had been taken off the road the value of their property would depreciate and the new houses being built would not be let readily as people would not come down that end of Cambridge if there were no buses. There was a possibility of their finding sufficient money to run a line of buses themselves if 15 people put £10 each into the concern

1903 04 18

All the arguments in favour of converting Cambridge into a County Borough having failed some councillors have threatened to petition for an extension to the town's boundaries so as to include not only Chesterton but Newnham Croft and St John's, Cherry Hinton as well. To silence opposition they have threatened that all children from these districts attending schools in Cambridge will have to be turned out to seek education under their own authority. This has confirmed the opponents in their opposition and alienated the sympathies of supporters. Fortunately nobody is likely to be frightened by such pusillanimous threats.

1903 09 10

A crisis in education has arisen at Cherry Hinton. St John's Infants School, Blinco Grove, is to be closed due to the abominable condition of the road which makes it next to impossible for the infants to attend in wet weather. On June 30th the average attendance was 49, compared to a high of 74 and the amount received by the school has dwindled proportionally. The school was condemned three years ago but the managers were asked to carry on until the new Education Act came into force. Now the County Council has decided not to take over the school and the closing is a drastic step taken to avoid a larger deficit.

1905 01 13

Rock Road, p4

1905 03 10

A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 03 13

Cambridge magistrates were told there were about 440 houses on the Rock Estate with one full-licensed house, the Rock Hotel and one off-licence. Either of these sent out beer to houses as ordered. There are also at least four brewers' vans to deliver beer in gallon jars and bottles, and grocers from Cambridge send up pint bottles. If they granted a new licence to William Conder of Marshall Road, which was a new and fairly populous district, it would lead to secret drinking, more especially by women at their homes. The licence was refused. 05 03 13a-c

1905 04 08

The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15-minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 10 05

Cambridge Town Council wrote to Chesterton R.D.C. saying they wish to extend their boundaries to incorporate parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester. Chesterton are to reply saying they will give such project its most strenuous opposition. 05 10 05-b

1905 10 14

Cherry Hinton sewage, p4

1906 09 08

Building trade in Cambridge is comparatively slack just now as suburban expansion on any large scale has ceased. Six months ago there was considerable activity in the Newnham district and on the Central Estate where a large number of houses sprang up suddenly. Then there was an extension of New Cherryhinton through the erection of many houses on the Hills Road. It is now planned to open up a building estate by cutting an avenue from Hills Road to the Trumpington Road 06 09 08c

1906 10 19

Eltisley Ave & Cowper Road dedicated, p3

1910 03 04

Cherry Hinton was the most rapidly-increasing district in the neighbourhood. It was popularly believed that the dwellers in St John's parish were all well-to-do and able to supply their needs themselves, but that was quite a fallacy, said the rector. There were a very large proportion of artisans and some who were very poor. One woman, whose husband was in the Asylum, had to work at a laundry to keep herself and three children on nine shillings a week. CWN 10 03 04g

1910 08 12

A new road between Rock Estate and Romsey Town would greatly improve communication between these largely populated and widely-separated districts, Mr W.P. Fison suggests. Rustat Road, which is a private road belonging to Jesus College could be continued until it cuts into Marmora Road. It would have to cross some allotments and a farm with a bridge over the railway line. There should also be a new road from East Road through Beche Road over a bridge into Old Chesterton. Both would provide work for the numbers of unemployed men in Cambridge 10 08 12e

1910 10 07

The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e & i & j

1911 02 03

The Inquiry into the extension of Cambridge borough boundaries heard that Cherry Hinton was part of Chesterton Rural District and divided into two wards. St John's was obviously an outgrowth of the town while the old village was in St Andrew's ward. The parish had the expenses of sewerage as a result of which their rates were very considerably in excess of the Borough rates. But the old village had no sewerage at all, the drainage being by means of cesspools. 11 02 03c

1911 04 07

The Local Government Board is in favour of the extension of Cambridge to include parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Grantchester and Trumpington. 11 04 07f

1911 05 19

Greater Cambridge editorial: Chesterton UDC will cease to exist, parishes of Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester will be divided and urban portions come into Cambridge 11 05 19c

1912 03 29

Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40,560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 05 31

Mr Strangeways was the heart and soul of the Cambridge Research Hospital which was opened on Hills Road. There has been a remarkable progress of science. It is now possible to examine bones and joints as if the flesh was transparent and to take photographs of them. The position of bullets and needles can be ascertained and diseases of internal organs elucidated by the X-rays. 12 05 31a & b

1912 06 07

Mr I.G. Elworthy told a meeting at Morley School that he had been one of the first members of Cherry Hinton parish council in 1894. When he first came there were only 50 houses but the district had developed enormously and the need for a recreation ground was very urgent. With the enormous increase of motor traffic it became more and more dangerous for children to play in the streets. The Council should purchase a site between Cherryhinton Road and Mill Road and in the meantime the Cattle Market field should be laid out as a temporary playground. It could be planted with trees like Christ's Pieces and would preserve the beauty of the district 12 06 07d & e

1912 12 20

Brooklands Avenue is a private road with a gate at the Trumpington Road end, which is sometimes closed, though one footpath, it is claimed, is a public path. Part of the road is invariably in a disgraceful state of repair and during bad weather is little better than a quagmire with mud up to one's ankles. Yet if a cyclist, to avoid the ruts and filth, takes to the public footpath he is liable to be pounced upon by a policeman. The road connects up Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, important parts of the extended Borough, and should be taken over by the Corporation. 12 12 20c

1913 01 31

Schoolboys & airguns in Hinton Avenue

1913 07 04

An important development in local football took place when the Cambridge Town F.C. was elected a member of the Southern Amateur League together with Weybridge. This was the fourth time they had applied and their success is largely due to their excellent performances in the last two seasons. This means they will compete against some of the leading amateur teams in the country on the Hills Road bridge ground with a home match practically every Saturday 13 07 04 p3 CIP

1914 05 22

Our First Local Fliers. The principal attraction for Cambridge residents yesterday (Thursday) afternoon was the visit of Mr. Gustav Hamel, the well-known aviator, with his monoplane, and 6,000 people assembled in the Rock Meadow, Cherry Hinton, over which Mr. Hamel gave a sensational exhibition of flying. Mr. Hamel showed that he was a complete master of his machine, an 80 h.p. Morane-Saulnier of compact build. He circled above the field, skimmed the ground and then looped the loop to the accompaniment of loud cheering. Opportunity was given to fly with Mr. Hamel and the fee fixed with £5 5s. There were six bookings. 14 05 22 CIPof

1914 10 02

Trumpington Drift to be widened and strengthened for military purposes and will be known as Queen Edith's Way

1914 11 06

The new hut barracks on Cherry Hinton Meadows are making remarkable progress: all the frames and roofs have been erected and it presents the appearance of a miniature town. The guard house is a long oblong building with offices for the Commanding Officer and clerks, a large detention room, guard-room and a number of cells lined with sheet steel. The regimental institute contains a games and reading room, supper room and canteen, nearby is a coal yard and shower baths. A parade ground and miniature rifle range are to follow.

1915 02 28

Cherry Hinton military hospital – suicide of soldier, gassed – 17 02 28b

1917 04 18

Explosive Found on Gogs - On Thursday evening an accident occurred at Cherry Hinton in which a boy named Edwin Jennings, of 55 Hartington Grove, had three of his fingers on one hand blown off and the other hand injured. It appears that a brother had been to the "sham fight" (cadet manoeuvres) on the Gog Magog Hills in the afternoon and had brought borne a bag. Edwin opened it and inside was a small metal tube embedded in sand. Whilst examining it, it exploded. The boy's mother, who was standing near, was knocked down by the force of the explosion but escaped injury. Dr. Coombes was called in and he dressed the wounds and ordered the boy's removal to Addenbrooke's Hospital, where he is still lying. On inquiry, we were told he was fairly comfortable. As a result of what the injured boy's brother said that other boys had similar bags. Inquiries were at once set afoot by the police. It was found that boys had picked up various articles and cartridge cases. One boy, Onyett by name, had taken another of the (canvas) bags home, and with other boys, had actually been using it as a ball. On hearing of the accident, Mr. Archer, chemist, of Cherryhinton Road, went to Mr. Onyett's house, and advised that the bag should be put into water, and this was done. The accident will probably serve as a warning to others.

1917 07 11

Cherry Hinton military hospital concert – 17 07 11b

1917 09 26

Working man J.P. We have to record the death of a highly-esteemed townsman and a prominent figure in Friendly Society circles in the person of Mr G. H. Barnsdale, J.P., who passed away at his residence in Cherryhinton Road, Cambridge, on Wednesday morning last. For some time deceased had been suffering from an internal complaint (cancer) and the end came quite peacefully. A Hearts of Oak man, he took part in the founding of the Friendly Societies Institute at Cambridge and the Friendly Societies Council. He was born in 1851 and on May 26, 1906, had the honour of being presented to the King at the opening of the new offices of the Hearts of Oak Society in Euston Road, London. In November, 1915, he was appointed a J.P. for the Borough of Cambridge, which appointment he faithfully filled up to the time of his death. He was the first, working man to be made a J.P. for the Borough.

1919 04 30

Town planning scheme selected – Romsey Town, Cherry Hinton, Coldham's Lane area – detailed article – 19 04 30a

1919 11 07

Isle War Pensions Committee – discuss buildings adaptable for training purposes. Most promising two hospitals at Cambridge. One Barnwell erected for 780 patients, other Cherry Hinton for 800, each complete accommodation residential staff - Barnwell 1,000, Cherry Hinton 1,110. Buildings commodious, well planned & well provided with first class roads, drainage done. Both used for

venereal cases but practically vacated & notices could be put up re new use; men would not go to buildings associated with VD. Barnwell temporarily occupied by 80 general cases from 1st Eastern General Hospital while few VD cases being treated – ES 19 11 07 p6

1920 01 28

Council decide to purchase sites on north & south side of Cavendish and Hills Avenues to erect dwellings – 20 01 28

1920 02 04

Drunk. "Guilty, your Worships," said Pte. James Connolly in an unmistakable Irish brogue at Cambridge Police Court on Friday, when charged with being drunk and incapable at Hills Road on the previous evening. P.c. Ward said that Connolly belonged to the King's Liverpools, and was a patient at Cherry Hinton Hospital. He was staggering along the footpath and knocking into people causing them to get off the pavement. The offence occurred at 7.40 a.m. As Connolly was alone, the witness could not ascertain where he got the drink from. — A fine of 5s. was imposed and the prisoner expressed a desire to go to goal in default of payment. The Chief Constable (Mr, R. J. Pearson): The military will pay the fine, your Worships

1920 02 11

Bacon theft. At Cambridge Police Court, yesterday (Tuesday), a private soldier of the R.A.M.C. Cherry Hinton Military Hospital, was charged on remand with stealing 14lbs 12ozs of bacon, valued at £1 19s 6d, the property of the War Office, on January 31. He pleaded guilty — Sergt. Lawrence Cross, of the County Constabulary, said he noticed that the prisoner's overcoat was very bulky. He stopped the man, took possession of the bacon, and arrested prisoner. Miller said he had been drunk all the weekend, and he went out on Saturday morning to try and "cure himself". If the constable had had the "ingredients of a gentleman" he would have sent him back to camp, having regard to his state. The Bench imposed a fine of £5. and Sergt. Cross was highly commended on the action which he took in the case.

1920 02 24

Cherry Hinton hospital – Churchill asked about escapes, vegetables stolen allotments

1920 03 03

Cambridge Town Planning inquiry considers objections of cement manufacturers about land Cherryhinton Road; proposes new road from Cherry Hinton Road to Fen Ditton Road across Coldham's Common; had been excavation for coprolites and foundations were bad, brick pits. Was good supply for Cement works but this meant noise, dust and smoke – 20 03 03a

1920 03 10

Cherry Hinton Military Hospital patients get out of institution – questions to military – 20 03 10b

1920 03 17

Playing Field. Efforts are being made to secure a playing-field for the pupils at the Cambridge and County School for Boys and enquiries are being made concerning sites in the neighbourhood of Glebe Road, Cambridge. 20 03 17

1920 05 05

Plan and sketches of houses to be erected in Cherry Hinton district to relieve housing shortage – 20 05 05b

1920 06 09

Cowper Road house struck by lightning – photo – 20 06 09a

1921 03 09

Thomas Henry Bradnum, photographer, Hinton Ave traded as Art Reproduction Company, Wolverhampton – 21 03 09d

1921 03 23

King & Harper Ford garage, Hills Road – full-page photo feature – 21 03 23c,d,e

1921 03 30

Hills Avenue new council houses – photo – 21 03 30c

1922 04 08

The designs of Cambridge town council to provide work for the unemployed by the construction of a road between Cherry Hinton and Newmarket road which had the sanction of the authorities have so far failed owing to what on the face of it appears to be a squabble between the committees concerned and the owners of property affected. It is high time something was done as at the present rate of delay - two winters have passed and a commencement has not yet been made - the unemployment crisis will be over before a pick or shovel has been set going. Meanwhile approaching £200 a week of ratepayers money is being spent upon relieving destitution caused by lack of work in Cambridge - "Table Talk"

1922 07 25

The principal new roads proposed as part of the Cambridge town planning scheme include a main road starting from Red Cross, on Hills Road, going approximately north to Newmarket Road at the corner of Fen Ditton-lane, divided into sections. Number 3 runs in a straight line as far as the old Newmarket railway line and then slightly curves into Mill-Road. There are two branches which both lead towards the station. It will be necessary to form a subway under the railway or bridge the line, unless this line, which at present is only used for storage of railway carriages, is done away with altogether

1922 09 13

The Ministry of Health Inquiry into the proposals for the development of the east side of Cambridge was conducted at the Guildhall. There was practically no opposition. It will be remembered that the scheme provides for the laying out of 21 new roads or streets, including a main road from Hills Road to Newmarket-road. The area includes 502 acres in the rural district of Chesterton

1924 10 05c

The 1924-5 edition of Spalding's Directory for Cambridge shows progress has been made with the development of various building estates and we find for the first time the names of Hawthorn Way, Harvey Goodwin Avenue, Haig Road joining Chesterton and Cam Road, and Coleridge Road which is the name given by Jesus college to the new road between Cherryhinton road and Romsey Town.

1925 07 01

A very important addition to the garage accommodation of Cambridge is the new depot just opened by the enterprising firm of Messrs King & Harper in Hills Road. It is situated just off the busy centre of the town so that people who are timid can drive up without much trouble and receive attention without being hustled by the police. King & Harper sell so many cars that it is quite impossible for them to give the service at Bridge Street to all the people who wish to come to them. In front of the garage is a petrol filling station from which four different kinds of petrol can be obtained at a moment's notice. Two large wash-downs have been provided which owner-drivers may use for the purpose of washing their cars.

1925 07 06

As from July 1st all policemen will live rent free, the Chief Constable reported. The need for a police house at Harston was very urgent because the owner of the house which the policeman now occupied had been waiting until the officer moved before he could get married. The new Cambridge town planning scheme was bringing a road from Cherry Hinton to the Ditton and Horningsea road and they

wanted a site on the Cambridge side of the new road. At Burwell the police house was complete, with the exception of the water supply

1925 07 17

The acquisition by Jesus College of the old Newmarket Railway has enabled them to develop the Station building estate by the construction of Coleridge Road, and they are offering freehold land in suitable plots for the erection of private dwelling houses in open and healthy surroundings, with ample garden ground. Coleridge Road has been constructed by the college at great expense & is the first in Cambridge constructed of reinforced concrete. Lots are offered at prices from £225 to £250.

1925 08 07

Sir – the proposed garage on Christ's Pieces has called forth a crop of protesting letters; let them be directed against the ugly, barrack-like Councils houses at Chesterton and Cavendish Avenue. The majority of the houses are literally a blot on the landscape, badly designed, dreary and poverty-stricken, they are eyesores to every passer-by. Yet they are being built without a word of protest, while the cutting down of a couple of trees evokes a regular storm of indignation – Kappal

1926 02 05

Coun Few said they were very proud of the houses they had built in Vinery Road and Coleridge Road, but they were now proposing to build houses that in a few years would become a slum area. They would be spoiling Cambridge if they built non-parlour houses with only one living room. They ought to consider the women who had to live in those houses. "We men only pop in and pop out, as it were, we are only lodgers; it is our working women who have to put up with them all the time. I call that type of house unfit for human being to live in as far as the wife and children are concerned", he said.

1926 09 03

Capt Ronald Leavey, who was burnt to death when an aeroplane he was piloting crashed and burst into flames near Leatherhead, is not unknown to Cambridge. Two months ago he visited Cherry Hinton where he took many passengers up at different times for pleasure flights, and also accomplished many noteworthy feats of daring in the air. His untimely end will be regretted by all who met him.

1927 03 03

The chief engineering feature of regional planning will be a new ring road all around Cambridge about two miles from the centre of the town. One length would be a road running north and south joining the Hills Road with the Newmarket Road, a length of about three miles. Certain roads and bridges were contemplated to obtain an inner ring road around the central portion of the town. Mr C.H. Tebbitt said that what had been done haphazard in the villages was the joy of the countryside and he wondered what would have happened to these beauty spots if they had been regional planned.

1927 08 11

There was a large attendance at the stone-laying ceremony of the new Parochial Hall for St John's Church, Cambridge. The object is to supply a building for Sunday School work, social and other parochial gatherings. The building would have been of a different type but for the fact that part of the site has been acquired by the Corporation for making a roadway from Blinco Grove to Cavendish Avenue.

1927 11 25

It was a memorable day in the history of St John's Church, Hills Road, Cambridge with the opening of the new Parish Hall and Sunday School. The hall, which is dedicated chiefly to the use of young people, is a fine building of red brick and is situated on the site of the old Mission Church in Blinco Grove. The Women's Union have made themselves responsible for the porch and entrance, raising £130 & money for the electric light has been raised by Miss Gwatken and her Bible Class.

1928 05 25

Amid scenes of enthusiasm the Mayor of Cambridge opened the new Coleridge Road recreation ground which has just been completed at a total cost of £7,000. It was in September 1925 the Corporation bought the ground for the public and ever since then the Surveyor and his merry men had been preparing it. By the autumn they would be able to play football on it and by next summer cricket. They wanted to make a garden as well and if any person felt disposed to present them with a dozen flowering trees the council would make good use of them. Critics said it was not wanted but in the future many would be grateful for it. It would keep the children off the streets and from the danger of the traffic.

1929 06 16

St John's church nave extension consecrated – CDN 16.6.1929

1929 08 17

Big Cambridge fire – sheds and railway trucks destroyed at Hills Road – CDN 17.8.1929

1931 04 10

Despite a steady downpour over 400 people paid for admission to the Cambridge Greyhound Racing track in Coldham's Lane which opened with a fine programme of events. The track is in the shape of three sides of a rectangle with a stand forming the fourth. This was occupied by about 200 people most of the time. Another meeting at Cowper Road was affected by the rain when Slow and Sure proved the speediest greyhound of the day. 31 04 10o

1931 06 05

In all proposals affecting change to local government, the sewerage problem looms large. Cambridge is provided with a sewage scheme which appears to be adequate and the sewage farm produces a satisfactory effluent. They could cope with Chesterton and Cherry Hinton but if the town boundaries were expanded to take in Histon and Impington it would cause problems. 31 06 05 h i

1931 12 04

A Trinity Hall undergraduate appeared in court following a collision. Students were not allowed to have motorcars and he was endeavouring to leave Cambridge without being seen, but had an accident in Coleridge Road and failed to stop. A number plate was knocked from his car and by that means the driver was traced. As a result he had been sent down for good. He did not think the penalty would have been so severe. 31 12 04d

1932 05 06

St Paul's church hall, Suez Road was dedicated to serve the large community resident in the Coleridge Road district. Jesus College had given the site with sufficient land at the rear to build a church while Mrs E. Rowcroft of Torquay had send a cheque for £1,000 for the building work. 32 05 06d

1932 06 16

An 'automatic laundry' has been opened in Hartington Grove Cambridge. Dignitaries inspected the Forum Cleaning and Dyeing Company machines where several garments were cleaned and dried before their eyes in less than ten minutes. After cleaning clothes pass to a dusting wheel where they are tumbled and dried in a current of cold air before passing the eagle eye of a 'spotter' to the pressing room so that obstinate stains can be removed. 32 06 16

1932 08 19

Sir – modern education is insufficient as witnessed by the complaints of employers at the errors made by young people seeking their first post. But what can society expect whilst teachers have to attend to the requirements of 60 and more children in each class? Schools should develop character in addition to imparting knowledge but teachers have to combat indifferent home influences. If society desires protection from its vices let it not economise at the expense of its schools – Walter Billings, Coleridge Road. 32 08 19f

1932 12 23

Former Mayoress, Mrs Catherine Tillyard was an accomplished yet humble woman. Under the pen-name of 'Pertelote' she contributed a women's column when her husband edited the Cambridge Independent Press. Her daughter, Aelfrida, is an authoress of some distinction and her son, Eustace, has a number of important books to his credit. She belonged to the old aristocratic school, worshipped at St Columba's and took an active interest in the temperance cause. 32 12 23e

1933 09 20

Well-built houses, Perne Road. An attractive position, situate on the beautifully-made new ring road, close to bus stop. Prices £690 and £710. £50 down, balance £1 weekly. See Walter Driver's announcement in the auction columns for detailed particulars. Sole Agent: Drivers, 1a Post Office Terrace. Tel.468 (Advertisement). 33 09 20

1933 10 20

Unemployment in Cambridge is serious: 965 men and 84 women were out of work. The University Library was nearly finished and the great building projects in the town completed. But work continued on Queen Edith's Way, Long Road and the Hundred Houses Estate as well as the paddling pool on Coldham's Common. The Minister of Transport was keen to do away with level crossings and replace them with bridges; this could mean serious expenditure but provide employment for a great number of men. 33 10 20

1934 04 03

The Mayor and councillors performed the ceremony of 'beating the bounds' to mark the addition of additional areas to the Borough. They began at the east end of the cemetery grounds on Newmarket Road then toured Cherry Hinton before moving on to Trumpington where the new boundary begins on the town side of Long Road. Here the Mayor cut a light-blue silk ribbon before formally stepping into the new territory. Then after visiting the boundary a quarter of a mile beyond the L.M.S. railway bridge on the Shelford Road they were entertained to tea. 34 04 03

1934 10 13

The Perne Road Estate. Charming modern houses from £400 freehold. Every house contains entrance hall, drawing room, kitchen, dining room, three bedrooms, bathroom, separate W.C., H. & C. Water. Room for car. Small deposit (£25). Terms from 13/2 (65p) per week. Over 40 already sold. Drivers, Estate Agents – advertisement. 34 10 13

1935 04 18

New road connecting Mowbray Road with Hills Road – Glebe or Holbrook – photo – 35 04 18

1935 06 26

The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1935 08 01

After a very close debate Cambridge councillors voted to continue lighting the streets with gas. Councillor Kenney said the lighting was bad and it was ridiculous to think of giving a ten years' contract to gas. Street after street was almost entirely one-sided as regarded lighting. Beyond Hills Road railway bridge all the lamps were on the left hand side and the place was in shadow. Nothing could take the place of electric lamps suspended over the streets. But in London where there were no long lines of electric wires from remote stations there had been a number of breakdowns. How much more would that apply to Cambridge? 35 08 01

1935 08 12

Houses were threatened when a line of flame swept three-quarters of a mile of land from Trumpington to Hills Road. In Long Road helpers beat desperately at the flames to prevent them spreading along the hedges to the gardens of near-by houses whose residents used garden hoses to dampen them down. Dozens of rabbits raced wildly over the charred ground and a leveret was turned into a living mass of flame. The verge caught alight, clouds of white smoke making it impossible for passing traffic to pass at more than a crawl. Vehicles were diverted via Cherry Hinton and all available police were mobilised to control the traffic and help fight the fire. 35 08 12

1935 09 13

Two large stacks of hay, the property of Walter Doggett, were completely destroyed in a blaze of several hours' duration in a field down Queen Edith's Way. The heat of the blaze scorched the hedge bounding the fields for many yards and reduced a wooden gate to little more than charcoal. There was a continual stream of onlookers many of whom thought that some of the new houses along that part of the road were burning. Several times the crowd split up hurriedly as someone saw a rat or mouse making a hurried exit from its flame-spread home. 35 09 13a

1935 09 26

The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road. 35 06 26a

1935 10 02

Building of Cromwell Park housing estate – photo – 35 10 02a Perne Road – 35 10 03

1935 11 14

In view of the apparent apathy it is surprising that the number of electors who voted was so high. The excitement, so far as there was any, was greatest in the outlying districts. Residents in the newly-added areas such as Trumpington and Cherry Hinton had the curious experience of living in the Borough and voting (for Parliamentary elections) in the County. So did residents on the Hurst Park Estate which used to fall within the Impington parish boundary. At Brunswick Council Schools a blind man arrived. The inner room was cleared except for the presiding officer who told him the names of the candidates and then made a cross at the voter's selection. 35 11 14

1936 01 05

An amazing tame jackdaw has made its home with Mt T.L. Naylor of Blinco Grove. It came as an uninvited guest in January last year when it flew into his garden with a cheery 'Hullo!' and was promptly adopted. At first the bird's food was placed on the scullery window-sill but as other birds used to join in the feast its tray of tit-bits was placed inside the scullery. Now when it feels hungry the bird taps on the window to gain admission to its snack-bar. It is put to bed each night in a tomato-box which is placed in the garage and surrounded with boxes to keep the cats out. 36 01 05a & b

1936 03 03

Cambridge transmitter, G2XV, is one of the most successful amateur short wave radiotelephony stations in the country. Its semi-vertical antenna enables it to be heard on the 20-metre band in almost all corners of the world, including Australia, New Zealand, India, Honolulu and every state in the USA. It is owned by G.A. Jeapes of Perne Road, whose interest in short-wave transmissions goes back to the days before radio broadcasting was ever thought of. 37 03 03

1936 05 21

At the opening of the new Rock Road library the Mayor said that in these difficult times it was important that there should be in every district a building which would help to circulate the best ideas and information for the guidance of residents. In the days to come the building will become more and

more the intellectual home of the people who live around it. All would agree it was the right policy to encourage children to use it. He regretted the absence of a representative of the Carnegie Trust, which had helped with the money for the library 36 05 21a

1936 05 23

Mr W.A. Fenton, the Borough Librarian, has seen a tremendous growth in the reading public since he took office. The new Rock Road Library has had an excellent start-off this week. When I looked in last night I found a continuous flow of adults and juveniles. The children's reading room was practically full and some boys to whom I spoke assured me that everything was quite all right. Work on a new branch library at the corner of Milton Road and Ascham Road will begin almost immediately. The site appears to be an ideal one and new building should be complete before 1937 is very far advanced 36 05 23c

1936 10 09

King & Harper new garage Hills Road – 36 10 09a

1937 03 05

Proposed Weathervane on Perne Road refused – 37 03 05n

1937 03 05

The death occurred of Mrs Ann Smith, wife of Gypsy Smith, at their home, Romany Tan in Hinton Avenue. She was associated with Hills Road Methodist Church but led a very quiet life and although she once or twice went on tours abroad, she generally remained at home. The funeral service will be held at the house. The famous preacher is absent in America on an evangelical tour; he is at present in Charlotte, North Carolina. It is not expected that he will be able to return home until April. 37 03 05k

1937 03 27

Have you seen the luxury houses on the Fendon Estate (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way?). Make a visit this Easter. Architect designed houses, built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Houses have sold quickly to discerning buyers

1937 03 27

Waterworks Company new workshop and depot foundation stone, Rustat Road – 37 03 27c

1937 04 23

Opening Ascham Road library, the Mayor said it was a great day for Chesterton. In that beautiful building, with good light and accommodation they could look at the books and select them for themselves. The children's library would encourage youngsters to read. At present physical education was the fashion. We were in danger of producing a nation finely developed from the waist down. The library would help to counteract it. Ten months ago they opened a branch library in Rock Road and so far 87,799 books had been issued, very close to the number at Mill Road branch which had been in existence 40 years. (Applause). 37 04 23c & d

1937 08 03

Brilliant summer weather attracted a big crowd to the annual Conservative Fete held at Sir Harold Gray's home on the Gogs. There was a steady stream of buses, cars, cycles and invalid carriages the whole of the length of Hills Road while thousands made the journey on foot. There were numerous games and competitions concluding with dancing and a grand firework display. It was opened by the Home Secretary (Sir Samuel Hoare) who said that there would soon be sufficient gas masks for the whole of the population and production of guns, tanks and warships was coming along. 37 08 03 & a

1937 08 16

Sir – as a small boy in the 1880s my first impressions of Cambridge were so different from today as to be almost incredible. Cambridge, bounded practically by Mill Road railway gates, Paper Mills Bridge,

Hills Road Bridge and Queens' Road was a glorified village. It smacked of medieval times with its Spinning House in St Andrew's Street and bread and butter was retailed in yard length by Varsity tradesmen. The fastest vehicles on the road were the pretty tandem horses in dog carts affected by rich undergraduates and hansom cabs and I remember assisting the shepherd of Mr Joseph Sturton's sheep with his flock to and from Parker's Piece where they were grazed – P.J. Wright 37 08 16

1937 10 23

Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new workshops and depots in Rustat Road would lead to improved service, enhanced efficiency and – sooner or later – reduced charges. The old premises in Bene't Street had been a veritable shambles and disgrace with pipes stored at the disused Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn pumping stations. They would wage ceaseless war against waste by leakage and had a gang of plumbers ready to deal with any emergency 24 hours a day with the promptitude of the London Fire Brigade. 37 10 23b

1937 11 05

Coleridge Senior School in Radegund Road was opened by the Mayor. It was not yet completely equipped – only half the gymnasium fittings were fixed and although they had a dining hall and kitchen the cooking arrangements were not complete. But the halls were fitted with cinema projection rooms, there were showers for pupils, and rooms for teaching cookery, laundry, housewifery and woodwork. The spread of population to the outlying parts of Cambridge had made it possible to provide new schools with plenty of land for playing fields. 37 11 05a

1938 02 03

Many unscrupulous Cambridge landlords are charging more than they are entitled under the Rent Restriction Act. There should be a crusade against them. One railwayman about to retire on a pension had been paying three shillings and ninepence rent for over 20 years. Now this had been raised by three shillings (£8). Tenants in Cavendish Avenue had been told they would have to pay sixpence a week more because the landlady was supplying sanitary dustbins. Those who felt exploited should see the Poor Man's Lawyer 38 02 03c

1938 02 05

Greene King wanted a new pub, 'The Running Footman' on Coldham's Lane, opposite Brooks Road. It would cater for people needing non-alcoholic drinks and keep open outside licensing hours. There were 1,700 residents within a quarter-of-a-mile with more coming soon when the ring road opened. But the licensee of the Brookfield Tavern said it would hit his trade while the Temperance Council claimed alcohol was a narcotic drug and dangerous to motoring – that was why insurance companies offered a rebate to drivers who abstained. It was refused as was another on Perne Road to be called 'The Weathervane' 38 02 05 & a

1938 02 26

The Fendon Estate, (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way). Architect designed houses built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Near golf course. Schools and churches nearby. Houses have sold quickly to discriminating buyers during the short period this Estate has been open. Prices £1,050 to £2,000. Secure your site now to avoid disappointment. House now ready for sale, £1,475 (about £79,000 today). Specifications include large oak hall, dining room, coal and coke stores, larder, central heating with three radiators, electric lighting, power and bell points. – Advertisement 38 02 26a

1938 03 22

One-way traffic, Hobson St deleted from scheme, Perne Road roundabout – 38 03 22d

1938 09 21

Positively the best house property value in Cambridge is obtainable at Winston Road Estate, Cherry Hinton. Delightful houses, overlooking meadows, contain two reception rooms, three bedrooms,

W.C., bath (h. & c.) and all latest labour-saving fittings. Main sewerage. Large garden. Near bus route. No road charges. Price £550 freehold (about £31,300 at today's prices) (Advert) 38 09 21a

1938 09 29

Air-raid trench in garden, Coleridge Road – 38 09 29aaa

1938 10 07

William Coad of Cavendish Avenue has come up with an answer to the need for underground A.R.P. shelters. His scheme is to construct a sub-way car park underneath Cambridge Market Square with inlet and outlet ramps, which, in the event of an emergency, could be converted into an effective shelter accommodating several thousand people. A nominal car-parking fee would eventually pay for the initial outlay and alleviate the need for suitable garaging for business men coming into the town. 38 10 07 # c.44.6

1939 05 18

Jack Brignell carried on business as a builder and undertaker in Newmarket Road for over 40 years. He erected many large buildings in Cambridge but was recently mainly engaged on Council schemes such as the erection of the Coleridge Senior School. He was a county councillor and took a keen interest in the Mill Road Infirmary, Salvation Army, Victoria Institution and Cambridge Brotherhood. He died on the eve of his only son's 21st birthday so a coming of age party arranged at his college, Sidney Sussex, has of course been abandoned. 39 05 18c

1939 07 18

Hinton Avenue flooding pic – 39 07 18a

1939 07 20

PC Brookes joined the force in January 1913 and for the first seven years was engaged mainly in plain clothes work with special reference to the campaign against the white slave trade. He also investigated the burning down of a house in Storey's Way when Suffragette troubles were at their height. Afterwards he spent time on cycle patrol, inspector of diseased animals and hackney carriages. Then he became coroner's officer and was engaged in three major tragedies – the King's College shooting affair, the five-fold shooting tragedy in Hinton Avenue and the death of a Sidney Sussex undergraduate. 39 07 20

1939 08 29

Air-raid siren set off accidentally at Waterworks in Rustat Road – 39 08 29a

1939 12 01

A Clare College undergraduate told the Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal that he hoped to do psychological work. The idea had come into his head while working in a Basque children's camp when he noticed that many of them had a kind of fit at the sound of an aeroplane. He was registered on condition he continued his studies. A shop assistant from Hinton Avenue, who was a lay reader in the Methodist Church, was registered on condition he undertook agricultural work. A man from Fulbrooke Road objected on religious grounds; he was a research physicist at the Cavendish Laboratory while a King's College graduate appealed on moral grounds. He was prepared and anxious to perform non-combatant service. 39 12 01d & e

1940 02 15

Coleridge Ward ARP wardens meeting – 40 02 15b

1940 08 02

Samuel Rudd, Mowbray Road reported wounded and missing – 40 08 02

1940 08 09

More Farmers' Boys. A party of 32 lads from the Central School Melbourne Place, Cambridge, arrived in the village (Melbourn) last Saturday, and on Monday commenced farm and orchard work where required. The lads are accompanied by the Headmaster, Mr. J. D. Livingstone, and take the place of the 30 lads from the Coleridge School, who returned home on Saturday after a fortnight's work in the orchards. After a fortnight in the village, the Central lads will leave, and their place will be taken by another party. The boys sleep in the infants' room of the Council School, and have their meals in the Church Room. # c.45.7 # c.36.5

1940 10 18

Awarded D.S.C. Capt E.S. Lewis, Royal Marines, of 98 Glebe Road, Cambridge – the badge of whose corps is the famous Globe and Laurel – has been awarded the D.S.C. Before being called up last October, Capt Lewis was well-known as the Cambridge manager of Messrs E. Pordage & Co. Ltd, Hills Road and his new honour is of particular interest because during the last war he won the D.S.M. 40 10 18

1940 12 04

Communal kitchen run at Blinco Grove Parochial Hall – photo – 40 12 04b

1940 12 06

River Rescue. Writing from 66, Hills Avenue, (Cambridge), Mr Thomas C. Catlin states: "Will you allow me space in your valuable paper to express my sincere thanks and gratefulness to the gentleman who on Monday night dived into the river Cam in the fog and darkness, near Chesterton, and rescued my son from drowning? It was a very gallant and heroic action on such a night. I would also like to thank the girls, who, returning home from work, went back to fetch help, and therefore helped to save the boy's life. Although still suffering from shock, he is recovering again." 40 12 06

1941 05 09

Fire bomb damage on East Anglian town – thousands of incendiaries and high explosives (Coldham's Lane, Marshall Road area) – 41 05 09

1941 06 13

Postman Honoured.—The King has awarded the Imperial Service Medal for long, zealous and meritorious service to Mr. Charles Potter, postman, of 10, Derby Road, Cambridge, who has recently retired from the Post Office after nearly 50 years' service. On Wednesday the medal was presented to Mr. Potter at the Sorting Office, Mill Road, Cambridge. Mr. G. W. Harding, the Acting Head Postmaster, made the presentation in the presence of a large gathering. He said Mr. Potter entered the Post Office Service as auxiliary postman at Gt Wilbraham in 1893, when he was 14 years of age

1941 08 22

Death of Mr. A. B. Chater. Mr Augustine Barrett Chater, who died suddenly at his residence, 21, Hartington Grove, Cambridge, was the third son of the late Mr. Josiah Chater. He was educated in Cambridge and took his B.A. degree at the university. He was unmarried. He was admitted an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1895. Mr. Chater joined his father and his brother the late Mr Vernon Chater in practising at 5 Alexandra Street. He continued the business up to the time of his death.

1942 01 16

Deputy Lieutenant. The London Gazette contains the following notice of a commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Cambridge: "Major (local Lieutenant Colonel) Frederick Newton Ball Drake Digby, T.D., of 20 Fendon Road, to be a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Cambridge. Dated 6th January, 1942" Colonel Digby is a former Commanding Officer for the Cambridgeshire Regiment.

1942 03 14

Civil Defence Committee consider invasion plans; will be shelter provision for 26,000; Coleridge Road and Lammas Land recreation grounds to be cultivated for foodstuffs; flower-growing to stop at Cherry Hinton Hall – 42 03 14

1942 05 11

Romsey & Coleridge Civil Defence inspected – 42 05 11

1944 09 22

Married 70 Years. Mr and Mrs. William Archer, of 32 Hartington Grove, Cambridge, on Saturday celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary, which indeed must be a record. They were married at St. Andrew's Church, Cherry Hinton, in 1874 by the Rev. W. S. Parrish. Mr. and Mrs. Archer have four sons and three daughters, 19 grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Four grandsons are serving in the Forces. For 19 years after they were married they resided at John Street, City Road. Mr Archer has been a builder practically all his life. Mrs. Archer was 90 last March and Mr. Archer celebrated his 91st birthday last November. They were both born at Cherry Hinton. 44 09 22

1945 06 01

Award for Gallantry. The many friends in Cambridge and the County of Lieut-Col. F. N. Drake Digby (former C.O. of the Cambridgeshire Regt.) and of Mrs. Digby (of 20 Fendon Road, will learn with interest and pleasure that their only son has received an award for gallantry in Burma. The official notification reads: The King has been pleased to approve the following award for distinguished and gallant services in Burma— D.S.O. Major (Temporary) Anthony Sergeant Drake Digby, 66273, the Suffolk Regiment, Cambridge. Before the war Major Digby had adopted the stage as his profession, and many local playgoers will remember that he appeared at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge, in "French Without Tears", a fellow player in the cast being Richard Greene, who soon afterwards went to Hollywood and has since become a well-known film star.

1945 06 21

25 German Prisoners of War at work on Lichfield Rd housing site; the 100 temporary houses will be pre-fabricated 'Unisec' type – photo – 45 06 21

1945 08 20

VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherryhinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd, Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a# c.45.7
Premier Travel take over services of F.E. Weeden of Chrishall – 45 08 30; Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close – 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd – 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd – 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St – 45 10 18

1945 09 14

More about Cambridge air raids; some remarkable escapes; bombs which failed to explode – a large book in Guildhall might be placed in Library, the official record of enemy air activity; incendiary n roof of Rock Road library; incidents in county – 45 09 14a, 14b

1946 03 02

Licence removed from 'Crown and Compasses' to new 'Weathervane' on Perne Road – 46 03 02; not confirmed – 46 03 30a

1946 09 05

Squatters occupy Nissen huts in grounds of 247 Hills Road, a house formerly occupied by Army Lancers Regiment and the R.E.s which empty for a year; huts empty for two 46 09 05

1946 10 18

Lichfield Road estate pre-fabs from air – photo - 46 10 18a

1947 04 21

Simplicity and speed is the key-note in the Cambridge Borough Council's Birdwood Road building site, when 158 permanent concrete houses are being erected. Machinery used in the work of construction - like cranes, cement-

1947 07 16

In order to complete the Housing Committee's anticipated programme of 5,000 houses, the following additional site are to be purchased subject to the approval of the Minister of Health. Arbury Road-King's Hedges (number of houses 1,300); Coleridge Road (180), Queen Edith's Way (250), Cherryhinton Road (365). Total number of houses 2,095.

1947 09 24

A device by which chimneys can be cleaned without making any soot or dirt in the room is being tried out in Cambridge by Super-clean from Hartington Grove. I understand the customary method of chimney sweeping is followed. The difference is that a device is fitted right over the stove, thus preventing soot from flying into the room. The main difficulty is that of adapting it to fit the many different sizes and types of grate. It costs more, and takes longer to have chimneys swept this way. An ordinary chimney costs 6s and it takes three-quarters of an hour to do the job - maybe longer. As a symbol as the cleanliness of the method the operator arrives at your door in a short white jacket

1948 04 01

"An aspiration set too high for practical achievement in these days of Government interference" was how the Chairman of the Cambridge Old People's Homes Ltd described the position of the Society at the present time. The possibility of having to wind up the Society was openly discussed. The committee had abandoned a scheme for the erection of a home in Queen Edith's Way owing to building costs having soared. They had explored the possibility of converting existing property and careful thought had been given to Hinxtton Hall and detailed sketch plans of the interior prepared. It was pointed out that a place nine miles away from Cambridge which old people's friends would have some difficulty in reaching was not "ideal"

1948 10 15

Cambridge Housing committee were told that 156 houses on the Birdwood Road estate were complete, but the flats were held up through shortage of labour. Work on the Green Park Estate was extremely slow. Another disappointment concerned the 100 permanent aluminium bungalows on the Church End estate, Cherry Hinton. The weight of a travelling crane which had to be used to lower the houses on to the foundations had done considerable damage to the newly-laid drains

1949 04 14

Delay in Cambridge corporation authority's gaining access to 40 acres of allotments in Coleridge Road in readiness for their use as a housing site would upset the rate of the council's housing programme, it was stated at an Inquiry. The corporation owned two other areas of land for housing. One, recently purchased, was in Queen Edith's Way. The other, the Arbury road site, it was proposed to develop as a neighbourhood unit with ultimately 1,000 houses, but it was unlikely it could be adequately serviced for building for at least 2 ½ years

1949 12 06

Cambridge housing committee has authorised the Surveyor to negotiate tenders for the erection of 217 houses during the first six months on the Ditton Lane, Queen Edith's Way and Coleridge Road sites, and for 250 more and one at Ventress Farm for the remainder of the year. They have informed Marshall's Flying School that they are unable to give priority to workers holding "key posts" and also said that until the present housing position eases they cannot consider providing accommodation for further single persons.

1950 02 03

Notice of the first compulsory purchase order ever to be made in Cambridge by the central Land Board is given today. It is in respect of a plot of land on the western side of Strangeways Road, Cherry Hinton and authorises them to purchase the land for the purpose of disposing of it for development. Their object is to make land available at the proper price for persons who have a licence to build a house.

1950 02 04

A start has been made on the construction of 38 garages on the Walpole Road housing estate in Cambridge using a new system of mortar less block construction known as "Dri-crete". This patented concrete block is the invention of a local businessman, Mr B.F. Hartley, who has been a manufacturer of concrete products for several years. The British Art Tile Company of Cambridge and Whittlesey are the patentees and manufacturers.

1950 06 28

Should the new secondary modern school for the southern part of Cambridge be built in the vicinity of Wort's Causeway or on the Ventress Farm estate? Cambridge education committee prefer Wort's Causeway as being more central for Trumpington and Cherry Hinton children but the planning committee thought it suited their planning arrangements better for it to be where Queen Edith's Way joined Hills Road. An alternative had been suggested that to preserve an open space the playing fields should be situated on the Ventress Farm estate and only the school on Worts Causeway.

1950 06 30

Rock Estate and Cherryhinton Road shopping centre revised early closing arrangements. The proprietors of the establishments beg to announce that as from Thursday 6th July they will remain open all day on Thursdays and that early closing day will in future be Wednesday. Signed: Colton footwear, Reg King the Cycle Specialist, C.J. Sampson, Bennett & Moore bakers, F.G. Cornwell grocery, B. Bennett wools and lingerie & C.H. Wisbey fruiterer - Advertisement

1950 07 22

A successful fete and sports organised by the social committee of the Cherryhinton Road pre-fabs tenants association was held on Lichfield Road recreation ground, Cambridge. Attractions included a miniature railway, Punch & Judy show, treasure hunt, bran tub & a mother and father's race. Highlight of the proceedings was a tug-of-war between the "Lichfield peacocks" and the "Golding Canaries".

1951 02 02

A pair of "Unity" houses have been completed on the council estate between Queen Edith's Way and Cherryhinton Road. There are 48 three-bedroomed and four two-bedroomed flats being built with a steel frame covered with concrete slabs in two colours – buff and brown. Lattice steel floor joists are used to save timber. The council have entered into a contract for these houses to speed up production and augment their programme of traditional building

1951 03 03 c

The Ministry of Health has asked Addenbrooke's Hospital to reduce capital estimates and certain projects will have to be postponed The most important was the new operating theatre, delivery wards

and premature baby unit which it was hoped would be built in 1952 at the maternity hospital. But authority had been received to enter into contracts to acquire 43,895 acres of land lying between Hills Road and Long Road for the site of a proposed new hospital.

1951 05 02

Big traffic hold-ups in Hills Road last March – when a large sale of implements and store pigs at the Cattle Market resulted in vehicles at one time taking 50 minutes to get from Hyde Park Corner - has lead to proposals for improvements. Immediate steps include the provision of a temporary entrance in Rustat Road.

1951 06 20

Cambridge councillors heard that the cattle market has become one of the most important cattle centres in the country as a result of the great increase in the amount of business transacted since the war. Problems had arisen because of the serious congestion of traffic in Hills Road when large sales are held and the need for better facilities for traders and customers. It was not designed for holding large sales of agricultural machines nor for the provision of parking accommodation for upwards of 1,200 motor vehicles.

1951 10 05

Cambridge Education committee made a strong attack on the planning ministry for flouting their wish to build a new secondary school at Wort's Causeway. The government had given permission to the governors of St Thomas' Hospital to develop land between Queen Edith's Way and Wort's Causeway as a housing estate. They hoped they would not put a school on the Ventress Farm site which was "a bad site and a bad position" & urged that action be taken to "rectify this bureaucratic injustice"

1951 09 18

The Minister of Local Government and Planning has confirmed the principle that there shall be a green wedge between Cherry Hinton and the main mass of Cambridge development. He has revoked planning permission previously granted for housing between Cherryhinton Road and Queen Edith's Way and says this area should be reserved for some form of open development to ensure that Cherry Hinton is not engulfed in Cambridge.

1952 08 19

A large congregation packed the church of St John the Evangelist, Hills Road, Cambridge for the dedication of the new organ. It contains 1,210 pipes which stand on the south side of the chancel with the console on the north side. For the sake of economy a certain amount of second-hand pipe work has been used. But this is no detriment as much of the timber which was easily obtainable before the war is of far higher standard than that procurable today when Siberian pine lies securely locked behind the iron curtain.

1952 03 19

St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton, has raised £1,700 to remedy the ravages of the death-watch beetle in their old timbers. The roof tiles have been stripped and the belfry floor renewed. Plans are being prepared for a new Parish Hall on the Mowbray Road site, a portion of which would be used as a church. Mr F. Linsey has retired from the position of organist and choirmaster after 18 years.

1952 08 09

Cambridge city council won its appeal against the refusal of the County Council to grant planning permission for the erection of houses on land fronting Queen Edith's Way on either side of the approach to Wulfstan Way. The plots were intended for former owners of land which had been sterilised by the revocation of planning permission on the Ventress Farm Estate. They could be sold at a reasonable price as compared with that now commonly asked for building land near Cambridge, where there was a serious shortage of sites available for private builders. The county had wanted sufficient land left open to preserve a view of the shopping centre.

1953 01 14 c

King's College head porter, Albert Powell, was granted a possession order for his house in Marshall Road. He had bought the house in 1919. In 1936 he was made head porter at King's College, which necessitated him living in the porter's lodge. In 1938 he let the house to the present tenant but told him he would want it when he retired. Mr Powell was asked: "Would you stay at King's if you could not get possession of the house; you are still full of fight and able to cope with undergraduates". He replied: "No, I am 66 now"

1953 03 16

The Mayor (Ald S.T. Bull) formally opened the first two police houses to be erected in Cambridge. He said that some new recruits come from other parts of the county and they, like most human beings, marry and have families. There are three police houses in the area but they have no indoor sanitation. The new houses are easy to run, with light and pleasant room. There are 16 police houses being built and they will be sited at Walpole Road, Queen Edith's Way, Fulbourn Road and Coleridge Road.

1953 04 28

Cambridge council approved building licences to Mr E. Maloney for five shops, twelve flats and a garage at the junction of Perne Road and Radegund Road, at a total cost not exceeding £29,300 & to the Norwich Union Insurance Societies for a block of 20 flats at Pinehurst, Grange Road. A tender is being negotiated for building 24 three-storey concrete flats on land fronting High Street, Cherry Hinton and 72 three-storey flats overlooking the Coleridge Road recreation ground. The names of Nightingale Avenue, Almoners Avenue and Kinnaird Way have been suggested for streets on the Netherhall Estate

1953 06 03

The special prize of £5 for the best decorated private house competition in Cambridge was won by Mrs M. O'Dell of Staffordshire Street who beat her nearest rival, Mr A.A. Cox of Victoria Road by one point. The standard was high and points awarded for each ward were very close. Winners included: Abbey Ward Mr R. Runham of Wellington Street; Castle: Miss J. Bowers, Windsor Road; Coleridge: Mr Blows, Cherryhinton Road; Cherry Hinton: Mr R. Abraham, Chalmers Road and Market Mr W.G.D. Clee of Union Road.

1953 07 08

Chesterton and Coleridge schools may adopt a two-shift system operating from 8.30-1.30 and 1.30-6.30 pm as means of relieving difficulties arising from the large number on the school rolls with 553 boys and 450 girls at Chesterton and 562 boys and 540 girls at Coleridge. It would not adversely affect the character of the schools, as all pupils would have normal facilities for the use of laboratories and practical rooms. But there were social consequences which would create difficulties. The schools should make full use of hall and dining rooms for teaching purposes and hire additional accommodation.

1953 07 09

Building operations are in progress to modernise the garages at the Hills Road depot of the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company and give appreciable increase in accommodation. A modern canteen and new offices and cycle racks are to be constructed. With commendable optimism, the Company are demolishing a bomb shelter which was installed during the war. Luckily it was never put to the test, but workmen are finding it a difficult assignment – an indication of the strength and protection it would have afforded. At present only one third of the garage space can be used. Buses which are now without a home are being parked in railway sidings nearby.

1953 09 24

Don Arrol, the star of "Coronation Scots" at the New Theatre, officially opened the new showroom of Messrs W.I. Cullin in Rathmore Road Cambridge. They have been appointed Austin agents and the showroom has been built to exhibit and sell Austin products. The garage, repair and servicing of

commercial and private vehicles will still continue. Guests were invited to the Goldsbrough Hotel for cocktails where everyone was given a souvenir propelling pencil.

1954 05 12

A baby girl born in Cambridge has the distinction of arriving in the world with six of her eight great-grandparents still alive. Susan Carole Fuller is the daughter of Mr & Mrs D.J. Fuller of Halifax Road. Her great grandparents on her father's side are Mr & Mrs W. Fuller aged 83 and 76 who now live in Wrexham, and Mr & Mrs B. Ager of Blinco Grove. On her mother's side they are Mr & Mrs V.F. Pursey of Mill Road. She also has 18 great aunts and uncles. This is most unusual and may be a record for Cambridge

1954 05 17

An important stage of the life of the new church of St James', Cambridge will be a social to 'kick off' the Building Fund. The first building will serve both as a church and hall and be in a central position in Wulfstan Way, almost adjoining the shops. Despite the absence of a church there is a very live congregation which meets in school hall and the Sunday School averages 145 as the majority of families in the parish have very young children

1954 07 08

Tom Abbott is one of the best-known heel and toe walking experts in Cambridgeshire. He started in 1925 when he saw an advert about the Cambridge Walking Club seven-mile road walk and by 1937 he held every walking record in the county – and still does. He has also won 30 championship medals. There was the E.H. Church Handicap Cup, a two-mile race in the Cambridge Railway Orphans Sports – he won it over a dozen times - the Royston to Cambridge road race held annually on Boxing Day, the ten-mile course along Newmarket Road and inter-county meetings without number. During the last war Army service races were won in Belgium and the Shetland Isles. Now he helps youngsters of the Coleridge Athletic Club.

1954 11 20

Thirty-seven gold coins – a sovereign and 36 half-sovereigns – were discovered by Cambridge corporation workmen, 23 of them in the sludge taken from the emptier at Swann's tip, Newmarket Road. This had come from the Birdwood Road and Norfolk Street area and when they investigated the gullies in the area thirteen further coins were found, two in a drain in Burleigh Street. These were heavy coins; they were unlikely to have been lost through a hole in a pocket; more likely they had been wrapped in something and disposed of by somebody who did not want to be found with them in his possession. Eight years ago a man in Long Road had been robbed of 100 sovereigns and 30 half-sovereigns – but there were more than this found.

1955 01 10

The old dramatic clubs are faced with serious competition with the formation of the Magpie Players who presented their first play at the Queen Edith School. The play was not a particularly good one and depends on swift production. That it was not produced with the necessary speed was partly due to the direction and partly to one player who was not quite at home with his words. But this was the only fault.

1955 06 20

The Bishop of Ely dedicated the building which is to be known as St James' Church in Wulfstan Way. He said that later they would need a new church and the present building would become the church hall. It was part of the challenge of new housing estates; in St Paul's parish they were trying to build another church and there was magnificent evangelistic work in the Coldham's Lane area which rendered another one necessary. 55 06 20 & 20a

1955 08 05

With 126 babies a lot of noises is to be expected but they were surprisingly good and few cries could be heard at Cambridge's bonniest baby exhibition. For the most part they sat contentedly on their

mother's knees waiting to be judged. Winners of the various age categories were Teresa Murray from Byron Square, Joy Quinney of Queen Edith's Way; Linda Barker of Canterbury Street and Gerald Peachey of Sedgwick Street while Patricia and Jacqueline Hooks of James Street won the twins competition. 55 08 05c

1956 05 01

The Christian Brethren opened their new Queen Edith Hall in Wulfstan Way. It is an undertaking of faith and cost a great deal of money but now they have a splendid position in the centre of what would be the ultimate building estate. 56 05 01

1957 02 01

Cambridge was visited this week by a flying saucer that appeared to be about 500 feet above the ground, says a reader from Fanshawe Road. It had a dome-shaped structure on top with a series of windows around the edge, one of which was blacked out while the base glowed with a vivid green fluorescent colour that seemed to be bubbling. He contacted the University Observatory who says it might have been a meteor. 57 02 01a

1957 03 02

A new public house, 'The Weathervane' can be built on Perne Road but the Star brewery must transfer the licence from The Crown and Compasses in George IV Street and will close the Crown, Wellington Street and the Star on Newmarket Road. People living in the new houses in the area objected, one lady saying she'd saved her money to buy a house there to be away from pubs. Pupils at Coleridge Evening Centre, one of the finest institutions in the country, might be degraded while people who drank were more likely to catch disease than those who did not. 57 03 02

1957 03 29

Nurse G.A. Dorrington of Coleridge Road is a midwife who has brought over 3,800 babies into the world. For 30 years she has been on call night and day, attending women in their own homes across Cambridge. Occasionally she visits a woman having a baby and finds she actually delivered the mother many years ago. Now she has been awarded the M.B.E. 57 03 29

1957 04 01

Despite a vigorous protest, magistrates agreed the erection of a new public house, 'The Weathervane' on Perne Road. There was a definite need; since 1936 around 2,500 new houses had gone up in the area with about 9,500 professional and working people. It was a respectable middle-class area and scholars would not be tempted to enter it. 57 04 01b & c

1957 05 13

In the early days in Cambridge a scout would buy a broomstick, which cost 2d, and a billy-can and spend weekends in the woods and country places round the city. Later such boys became scoutmasters but during the Great War troops had to run themselves. Then in 1925 they secured headquarters in Grafton Street which they'd sold to the Co-operative Society. Now the new Scout Headquarters in Perne Road was opened. 57 05 13d

1957 10 31

St Andrew's Catholic School was established 111 years ago and was the only Catholic school in the whole of Cambridgeshire. They had been in their new building for 21 years but now a new school would be built in the Birdwood Road area to accommodate more than 300 pupils and the existing premises would become a primary school. During the war it had housed 50 evacuated people: they slept on the stage and the balcony but the school carried on. They were shut only two days, for police reasons. 57 10 31

1958 03 03

Cambridge Water Company originally hoped the new Great Wilbraham pumping station would help meet the ever-growing demand, even in times of severe drought, until 1965. But the experiences of

last summer have prompted a less optimistic view and they were sinking a trial bore near Stapleford. They are also moving from Bene't Street, where they have been since 1866, to new offices in Rustat Road. 58 03 03

1958 06 03

Addenbrooke's Hospital Governors say it is 'reasonable' for the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company to buy land opposite the proposed new hospital in Hills Road for a bus stop. But they will provide a stop near the main entrance with parking room for three buses and a shelter for passengers. The Bus Company should consider additional services along the Perne Road – Fendon Road route to save passengers from Newmarket and Mill Road from having to travel by way of the city centre. 58 06 03

1958 06 20

Netherhall School, the first new secondary school in Cambridge since the war, was officially opened by Lord McNair. The smaller the class, the more effective the teaching and they should do all they could to reduce sizes, he said. The 300 children under the headmaster (Mr Holden) and the same number under the headmistress, Miss Wilkinson, was correct. They should cut time spent on administration and teach as much as possible. In this way they could consolidate the staff. 58 06 20a

1958 09 20

Cambridge Water Company opened its new office block in Rustat Road. It was formed 106 years ago by twelve townsmen and ten prominent members of the University and now supplies 120,000 people. There was an exhibition of nylon sink tops, Perspex baths and fibre glass cisterns instead of the old-fashioned ones made of galvanised iron. 58 09 20a

1958 10 08

Coleridge Girls' School celebrated its 21st anniversary; the girls were now much more lively, efficient and adaptable than those of 21 years ago headmistress Miss D.M. Howlett said. Then there had been no playing field and the school children had worn far too many clothes. Boredom was the main cause of juvenile crime so they had instituted leisure time work for the girls evacuated from Islington during the war years. The idea had been that children in modern schools were only intelligent enough to read picture books but in both academic and practical work Coleridge was achieving good results. 58 10 08a

1958 10 09

Residents in Beaumont Road off Queen Edith's Way Estate appealed for a reduction in rates to bring them into line with houses on Montgomery Road near the Arbury Estate. They enjoyed fewer nearby amenities – the shops were half-a-mile away whilst residents in Montgomery Road were near one of the most modern shopping centres in Cambridge. Beaumont Road had larger gardens and backed on to open land but Montgomery Road properties were intermingled with Council houses. 58 10 09

1958 12 19

Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future. 58 12 19b

1959 01 13

The widening of Hills Road Railway Bridge may be delayed as negotiations have still to be completed on what proportion of the cost will be borne by the County Council. The East side of the new bridge should run straight from the frontage line of no.129 Hills Road to the entrance of the coal-yard opposite the junction with Brooklands Avenue. There could be a new access from Cherryhinton Road to the Cattle Market and railway sidings. 59 01 13d

1959 07 28

Work has begun on the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. The first stage will include a ward block of 100 beds and although the final size has not yet been decided it will be between 600 and 800 beds. "Our responsibilities are to the future and we shall be very much to blame if in 20 years' time we find ourselves looking for a bigger hospital", said the Chairman of the Governors' building committee. It will stand in a landscape planned by a woman architect, Mrs J.M. Hayward, in collaboration with the Director of the University Botanic Garden. 59 07 28

1959 08 12

Hills Road bridge reconstruction photo – 59 08 12

1959 09 01

A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy. 59 09 01

1959 11 13

The Weathervane, a new public house at Perne Road, is the first to be built to serve new Cambridge housing estates. The site was purchased by Tollemache Breweries in 1937 but has been delayed for 22 years because of the war and building restrictions. Today it is uneconomic to build palatial mansions but this house is just as comfortable, the sort of place one can bring a family for a pleasant drink with its bright contemporary decorations, skirting heating and low fireplaces. "You may ask why the name 'Weathervane' was chosen, but I cannot give you any reason at all", Lord Tollemache told guests at the opening. 59 11 13c, 12

The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 03 18

Ninety small boys and girls flock to Rock Road library every Thursday to hear stories read by Miss Kathleen Asbery, the recently-appointed children's librarian. She visited a school's youngest infant class and when told she was from the library one small girl asked "Is she here because we have some books missing?" "It seems awful that children should think of librarians as ogres who stand behind counters, stamp books and charge them a penny for a late-returned item", Kate said 60 03 18

1960 03 22

Work on the widening of Hills Road bridge is slightly behind schedule but is expected to be open by the end of the year. Soon traffic will be diverted on to the new portion of the bridge to allow engineers to take down and rebuild the rest. Twelve beams of pre-stressed concrete have already been laid. When completed it will provide for a dual carriageway with a eight-foot wide footpath on either side of the bridge 60 03 22 – pic 60 03 24

1960 04 19

The Cambridge Cattle Market on Easter Monday was like Petticoat Lane and indeed many of the numerous stall holders came from just that place. From early morning cars and people streamed over Hills Road Bridge to the market. All the policemen Cambridge could muster were sent to exert some form of control but were fighting an impossible battle. Farmers who generally flock to the market on Monday mornings were greatly outnumbered by whole families enjoying a day out in the warm sunny weather. 60 04 19a

1960 04 28

Costs of building the new Hills Road railway bridge have increased by £20,000 because unusually difficult ground conditions mean it needs deeper and more substantial foundations. But the County

Council hopes to construct a bridge over the level crossing on the Cambridge Road at Histon. It will mean the demolition of five houses and affect the gardens of 17 other properties as well as the complete rebuilding of the Histon nursery school. 60 04 28

1960 06 04

An air raid shelter erected at the beginning of the war in the garden of 44 Chalmers Road, Cambridge, was never used because it was thought to be too shaky. Mr P.C. Grimwood, who constructed it, used a wonderful variety of iron work to strengthen it including a fender, a quantity of large keys, a sewing machine, part of a bedstead and wire netting. After the war it was left because the cost of demolition was prohibitive. Now it has finally been removed after three days hard drilling with two pneumatic drills, leaving 20 tons of rubble. Workmen say it was well-built and only a direct hit in the doorway would have destroyed it. 60 06 04

1960 06 21

It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road bridge – twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of 140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 07 28

Lorry overturns Perne Road island – 60 07 28

1960 08 09

Commercial and Industrial Painters of Coldham's Road has the first 62-foot long caravan transporter in the country. Customers are astounded on first seeing the trailer and local police were 'a bit taken aback' at first. So far it has not met with any difficulties as they have been able to by-pass awkward corners: when leaving Cambridge it is driven along Perne Road and Long Road to Trumpington. The firm, which began ten years in Sedgwick Street, sprays caravans and vehicles owned by haulage contractors. 60 08 09

1960 08 18

Harry Bevan joined the Ortona Motor Company in 1912 and for seven years drove the bus to Sawston, for which he was allowed 50 minutes each way. Carrying parcels as well as a steady stream of passengers he made five journeys a day and using the maximum speed of 12 mph always had time for a good smoke break at the end. The first double-decker ran from Station Road Corner to the Rock Hotel on Cherryhinton Road and back via Blinco Grove. It was not allowed to go through the town because it was a menace to shop signs. 60 08 18a & b

1960 12 17

Hills Road railway bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow for subsidence and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 03 10

Cherry Hinton planning inquiry over land at Ventress Farm – 61 03 10c

1961 06 14

Nearly 400 people in the south of Cambridge have protested about a proposal to build 'the greatest and best dance hall in Great Britain' in the middle of the Queen Edith's Way housing estate. The hall,

which would be used for wrestling bouts, boxing matches and rock and roll sessions, will be 'completely out of keeping with the nature of the district', they claim. The proposer said the area was currently scheduled for quarrying purposes and a hall would increase the amenities. "We could either mine chalk or build a really beautiful place", he said. 61 06 14

1961 12 01

Nightingale Avenue means something new in elegant living. It means spacious, modern four-bedroomed detached houses of quality and character by Trend Homes. Here is a rare opportunity to buy an exclusive architect designed house in a first-class position. Each will have the wonderful boon of oil fired heating, built-in wardrobes and French doors to a paved terrace. Price from £5,250 – Advert 61 12 01c

1961 12 14

Queen Edith public house opens, Wulfstan Way – 61 12 14

1961 12 17

Adkins Corner. For the convenience of those who prefer out-of-town shopping with good parking facilities, W.J. Atkins have opened a self-service store by the Perne Road island in Cherryhinton Road where you will find the same quality – the best – which has made Adkins famous for English and Scottish meat, sausages, pies, cooked meats and other provisions. You pay less for the best – and you get Green Shield Stamps as well – Advert 61 12 17c

1962 03 03

None of the aluminium bungalows owned by Cambridge city council is in urgent need of demolition because of corrosion, an inspection has found. However work should be started on pulling down the 100 bungalows at Church End, Cherry Hinton, within two years. This would allow for the area to be cleared for redevelopment. The 135 temporary bungalows in Fisher's Lane, Roseford Close, Walpole Road and on the Green Park Estate were not in such a bad state 62 03 03 a & b

1962 04 06

The newly-formed Cambridge branch of the Gideons International held its first public meeting. Almost all the local hotels have received Bibles, as have nearly 300 school-leavers and it is hoped to cover all such youngsters each year. Young folk from Queen Edith's Chapel have volunteered to read aloud Bibles given to the Blind Homes in Glisson Road. Twenty Bibles have been given to the Rehabilitation Centre in Brooklands Avenue. The replacement Addenbrooke's Hospital will be a major challenge in the near future 62 04 06b

1962 04 13

A glass staircase is just one of the fascinating features of a house in Queen Edith's Way which was built just before the war. It was designed by W.A. Cairns with sweeping curves, enormous bay windows at the front, a canopy above the sun terrace and arched doorways. The framework is of steel and armour-plate glass treads on slim rubber supports. The lounge has a circular mirror decorated with an engraving of a polo pony and rider. Much of the furniture is built in, including a cocktail bar and writing bureau 62 04 13

1962 05 23

Edward Wright, who recently retired as a milk float rounds man for Goodrum's Dairies, was the last of the drivers of horse-drawn milk carts in Cambridge. However he was not happy at retiring and leaving 'Sandy', the horse he has made his milk deliveries in the Perne Road area with for the past 16 years. So he bought 'Sandy' from the dairy and keeps him in a stable at his home in Cherryhinton Road. Now he has come out of retirement to advertise the Dairy Festival to be held in June 61 05 23a

1962 07 20

St Bede's Roman Catholic Secondary School in Birdwood Road was formally opened by the Bishop of Northampton. It is a co-educational school for 300 pupils with eight classrooms and a library,

together with craft, woodwork and housecraft rooms and laboratories. There is a combined hall and gymnasium together with a kitchen and dining hall which can be used for teaching space. The facilities are excellent in every direction. The school was opened to pupils after Easter. 62 07 20b

1962 11 23

Roundabout at Perne Road – Birdwood Rd junction starts – 62 11 23a

1963 02 23

Despite appalling conditions the national cross-country championships attracted more than 250 runners to the Coldham's Common course. The race started near the old rifle butts with a dash through ice-fields and bumpy ground towards the gas works, over a bridge built by the Territorial Army then past the Whitehill Estate, keeping to the rough of the Priory School playing fields to the railway bridge. Then runners were on the course proper. A special train was laid on from Liverpool Street with buses to Coleridge School 63 02 23a 63 03 04 & a

1963 06 14

Birdwood Road residents complained about the 'fall out' of white dust from the main chimney of the nearby cement works. It turns their red roses into white ones, and makes the garden lawn appear like winter once more. The plant was closed down for a thorough examination and a defect fixed in the electrostatic precipitator. There should be no more trouble 63 06 14

1964 02 06

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Perne Road – 64 02 06

1964 03 20

The new HQ of Cambridge A.T.C. Squadron is the former Royal Observer Corps base on Newmarket Road. When the Squadron was first formed as a unit of the Air Defence Cadet Corps its members attended lectures at the University Engineering Laboratories before moving early in the war to Leighton House in Trumpington Road. But most of its time has been spent at "Rock Mill" in Rathmore Road. 64 03 20

1964 04 16

Lichfield road prefabricated bungalow fire – 64 04 16a

1964 04 24

'Cambridge New Architecture' criticises the Addenbrooke's Hospital buildings in Hills Road. No doubt these bleak buildings work efficiently but the bungaloid growth of the out-patients building cannot mitigate the overall barrack-room atmosphere, it says. Bradwell's Court shopping centre is attractively self-effacing and the Snowcat is one of the few well-designed modern pubs. But other Arbury building is weak with prim brick terraces with utility steel or concrete doorways of modish design. It is a squandering of Cambridge's short-supply of housing land 64 04 24b

1964 05 11

Sir Eric Franklin fire at Cavendish Avenue destroys diplomatic papers – 64 05 11c

1964 09 21

Teenage motor cycles and girl friends moved on from Wulfstan Way after complaints of noise – 64 08 21e

1964 11 19

At Coleridge Youth Centre the hall vibrated with the sound of the latest pop tune. Outside the air was filled with the sound of motor cycles and scooters as more youths arrived. Youngsters were playing cards, table tennis and billiards, in one corner a group of girls sat talking. In between dances they sauntered to the canteen for a cup of coffee, a Coco Cola and a glance at the pile of magazines specially chosen for young people. It has a current membership of 300 of which two-thirds are boys.

The future will depend on a comprehensive new youth centre to be started shortly at St Matthew's Piece 64 11 19c

1965 01 16

Peter Coe of Cambridge blows the tenor sax for Georgie Fame on 'Yeh Yeh' which has pushed The Beatles from the top spot in the hit parade. He is an ex Cambridge High School boy and began his playing career at Coleridge Youth Club. The jazz group he helped to found came third in a national competition organised by 'Melody Maker'. He is now a full professional with the Blue Flames who pick up £200 a performance. His parents in Catherine Street are devoted to the Blue Flames new wave Rhythm and Blues – 65 01 16

1965 01 25

The new Mormon Church in Queen Edith's Way – the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints – is an imposing structure with a simple interior. The neat and modern design incorporates a sports room marked out with a basketball court. It was constructed using many hours of voluntary labour, many not members of that faith, and will be open to all. 65 01 25a (dedicated in 1967 when completely paid for) [11.8]

1965 02 26

Wulfstan Way bollards protest – 65 02 26a

1965 03 27

The new corn market building on the Cattle Market site will replace the old Saturday corn market held in the Corn Exchange. Merchants have been advocating a move for 10 years and now it is hoped the market will revive. An encouraging number of people want to take stalls. The cost of desk or box in the new building is £10 a year. People who attend to buy or sell are charged £3 for an annual ticket. Visitors are admitted free. It will also provide a small new hall for the Cherryhinton Road – Hills Road district 65 03 27a

1965 04 26

Guides opening of new HQ in Perne Road by Lady Baden-Powell – 65 04 26a

1965 10 25

Railway not hopeful about bridge from Davy Road to link large housing estates at Cherry Hinton – 65 10 25a

1966 04 27

Adventure playgrounds needed; survey of existing facilities at Coleridge, Lammas Land – 66 04 27a
Some of the Cambridge school buildings which have to be altered to turn them into comprehensives may not be ready by the time the new system starts in September 1974. Alterations costing more than £100,000 are being held up because builders, who have a lot of work on their hands and face an acute labour shortage, are unwilling to undertake any more City council contracts. Worried council officials had to approach 13 building firms before they could find anybody willing to undertake a £4,000 classroom building job at the Coleridge secondary school

1967 07 05

St James' church, Wulfstan Way expansion programme needed; first phase will be sanctuary nave and extra rooms – 67 07 05b

1969 04 03

Cambridge prefabs to be demolished – feature; have gone from Church End, Walpole Road and Fisher's Lane; leaves 40 at Gilbert Close and in Lichfield Road – Golding Rad area – 69 04 03

1971 09 10

Comprehensive education plans impeded – feature, photo Coleridge school – 71 09 10

1971 09 27

World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell visits Perne Road HQ – 71 09 27

1973 11 22

It was the Second World War which boosted the trade in used agricultural machinery at Cambridge cattle market. Now, after 30 years on the Hills Road site, it is hoped that the move to the new sales area down Milton Road will give a similar fillip to what is generally regarded as one of Europe's outstanding second-hand implements market. The cattle market developed over the years and continued unchanged until 1966 when the advent of an £8,000 new corn market proved more or less a flop from the start and received negligible support from farmers and auctioneers. There have been frequent prophecies that the cattle market will eventually go the same way. Obstinate though, it refuses to die

1974 04 06

When Cherry Mann moved into a council house in Holbrook Road, Cambridge this week it was not just a new home for her but the beginning of a whole new way of life. It was a dream came true. She has been severely disabled by a rare and incurable disease for more than 30 years, and her home for the last three years has been a hospital bed. The house been converted into a self-contained flat with wide sliding doors, accessible light switches and doors on to a specially-built patio so that she can propel herself in her wheelchair into the fresh air. "It is just incredible to be here", she said.

1975 05 03

Hundreds of Cambridge motorists were late for work today as the second stage of the city's traffic experiment turned into an enormous snarl-up. Police described the situation as chaotic. A police inspector said "Vast numbers of drivers are completely unaware of the new experimental scheme. At 8.30 this morning there was a solid block of traffic from the Catholic Church corner of Hills Road to Perne Road island. Drivers are bewildered and completely at sea". One councillor said that while the first part of the experiment was a semi-hit, the extension was a definite miss.

1976 02 10

Chips are one of those rare commodities that do not have to be sold by weight, quality or recommended retail price. So what do you get in 1976 for your six pen'orth. Well an old 6d won't even buy you a squirt of tomato ketchup in some shops. There is a growing tendency to sell ketchup and tartare sauce in sachets at 3p each. Nowhere in Cambridge could I find chips selling for less than 12p a bag. Four shops had a 15p. minimum price. The most extreme difference in value were between the Quality Fish Shop in Mill Road at 7oz for 12p compared to only 5 ozs for the same price at Mike and Julie's, Wulfstan Way and D.G. Munns, Old Chesterton

1976 10 11

Work is progressing smoothly on the extension of Barnwell Road, Cambridge, to link up in about two years' time with Brooks Road on the other side of the Cambridge-Newmarket main railway line. The aim is to provide a quick route for heavy traffic between Newmarket Road and Perne Road and out on to the main roads to London. This will by-pass the notorious traffic bottlenecks of Coldham's Lane. The scheme includes a new bridge over the railway and an extensive road island and an extensive road island at the Brook's Road – Coldham's Lane junction.

1976 12 13

The Cambridge Scouts' shop in Perne Road celebrated 50 years of existence. Known first as the Equipment Store it opened in a rifle range half way up the stairs at the old Grafton Street headquarters on 13th December 1926. The shop's manager, Mr Kenneth North, took over in 1934. He remained when the shop moved temporarily to Russell Street and then to the new Scout headquarters in 1956. Mr John Chambers has been associated with it since he joined as a boy in 1940 & Roger Woollard, Scout leader running the 13th Cambridge Scouts Group, also helps out

1977 07 21

One of the most striking features in the property market has been the resurgence of interest in the small terraced city house in the Romsey Town area. Fifteen years ago one could have bought a two up, two down, for about £1,350. By 1967 the price was £2,200 rising to £5,500 by 1972 and is now £8,500 – and increase of 530 per cent. In De Freville Avenue a semi which cost £3,000 in 1962 is now £15,000, and in Queen Edith's Way the figures are £3,350 and £14,500. A post-war semi in Cherry Hinton has risen from £10,000 to £15,000 in the five years from 1972.

1978 04 14

It is often said in Cambridge that the cream of the city's machinists are at Cambridge Instruments. They've got to be good, working to measurement of one millionth of an inch in metal. And the firm is now looking for people with the same high skill level to help boost output. To younger people, training at CI can be the springboard for a career anywhere in the industry, within the company on promotion or anywhere in the world. A major expansion programme and a rapidly rising inflow of international orders have created 70 new jobs. Some 750 people work at the factory in Rustat Road

1978 10 13 c

Over the last four years Cambridge city council has completed many major housing schemes – estates like King's Hedges, Fulbourn Old Drift and Walpole Road. And the government's new schools, fire stations and other building also proved a boon to the casualties of the time – building contractors and architects. But there has now been a cut in new town development, and home building involving architects virtually ceased overnight. In the past year there has been an upturn in private house building, but it is nowhere near the boom of the 1960's.

1979 01 16

The heart transplant operation at Papworth Hospital came within a month of the decision to close down its cardiac unit. The Regional Health Authority wants to start work on a new unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital because they say Papworth is inconveniently located and uneconomic in its running costs; a substantial range of improvements would be needed if it was to remain in use. The new cardiac unit at Hills Road would have 90 beds with operating theatres and support facilities. Work could begin in 1985

1979 02 22

As the rubbish collectors' strike continues it seems we are a tidy lot. Those now familiar piles of black shiny plastic have been kept in excellent order. A few 'hot tips' have burst into flames but as the strike goes on each dump begins to acquire a character of its own. At Arbury Court the residents' loyalty to the Beehive supermarket gives the tip a distinctive orange glow, but it is piled up against the side of the men's lavatories, blocking the air vents. In Glebe Road loose potato peelings and carrot tops spoil a tidy dump but probably the worst is the one in Nuffield Road.

1979 04 05

Cambridge City Council's scheme of building houses for sale to its tenants or people on the housing list has proved a great success. More than 150 couples applied to buy the 24 two and three-bedroomed houses which the council are completing at Walpole Road and selling for £10 - £12,000. Nearly 300 people have asked to buy the 300 houses being built by a private company in a joint scheme next to the council's King's Hedges estate. These range from one-bedroom flats at around £10,000 to three-bedroomed detached houses at £25,000. During the past two years the council has sold nearly 300 of its houses to tenants.

1979 06 07

In 1921 the garage on the corner of Hills Road, Cambridge, broke all records by selling 25 Model 'T' Fords. Now the firm of Gilbert Rice which took over the premises aims for 100 times that turnover. There is a used car facility with space to display 75 cars and they have installed service and repair facilities. In the light of the impending fuel crisis smaller cars will be substituted for thirsty larger

ones and there could be changes in the type of fuel used. The company is prepared to adapt and says the car dealer of the future will be running a very different type of business from today

1979 09 26 c

Cambridge Councillors want British Rail to spend £500,000 on building a footbridge over the railway lines from Rustat Road to the railway station, and also want a footpath from Devonshire Road to the entrance. It would assist many people who currently have to travel long distances and now BR is about to begin electrification they want a commitment to them. But British Rail is opposed to both plans claiming they would bring security problems as well as affecting future land development potential. The high cost is caused by the length of the bridge and the difficulties building it over the mass of rail lines.

1980 02 16

A major row over whether Papworth Hospital's heart unit should be moved to Cambridge has escalated. Consultants want it to be moved to Hills Road with all its specialist and support facilities but officials from two Area Health Authorities say the site is already overcrowded. There is an upper limit of 950 beds at New Addenbrooke's and already have to fit in a replacement for Mill Road Hospital and a psychiatric unit. They believe Papworth should be transferred to the new Hinchinbrook Hospital 80 02 16

1980 09 02

Cambridge's railway electrification came a step nearer when contractors handed over the shell of the new power signal box near Hills Road Bridge. It will take another 18 months to install the mass of circuitry which will enable a couple of men to control every train, point and signal for miles around. The plan includes floodlit carriage sidings with automatic washing plant for carriages. It is expected to come into operation in May 1982 80 09 02a

1981 09 17

Netherhall School is to take a leap into the computer age with a £35,000 development programme. Their involvement in micro-processors began long before the current upsurge of interest shown by schools in computers. Two years ago staff began working out how they would like to see computer studies develop in the school. An extra teacher will be provided at Government expense and a programmer employed. They expect the delivery of 15 micro-computers soon. 81 09 17a

1981 10 09

Netherhall School has won a £35,000 computer development grant for its pioneering use of new technology in education. The funding is coming from the Department of Industry, Cambridge colleges and Acorn Computers who will supply 16 of their new BBC Microcomputers. They will now develop computer programmes to teach science, geography, economics and history in schools around the country. 81 10 09b

1982 04 26

Sir - Independence for Cherry Hinton should be an election issue. Residents never wanted to be swallowed up by an expanding Cambridge and wish to be separate village. It is detached from the city by a 'green belt' including Netherhall playing fields, Coldham's Lane rubbish tips and Marshall's airfield where it is unlikely that any new development will take place. It has all the amenities such as a library, post office, shops and schools. Candidates should realise the importance of maintaining a community spirit - Cherry Hinton Liberation Front spokesman. 82 04 26

1983 02 11

The Aga Khan can relax: his kidnapped wonder horse Shergar is safe and well in an abbey in County Galway. He was 'found' by two Cambridge clairvoyants who came across his hideaway during an experiment using a pendulum suspended over two maps of southern Ireland taped together at their home in Netherhall Way. It was the first time they had conducted a psychic detection experiment and they admit there is a 'cocktail of doubt' about the result. 83 02 11

1983 02 22

After 40 years baking his own special brand of bread for the residents of Newnham, Basil Sargeant has retired to start a new life in Norfolk as a smallholder. In appreciation, customers presented him with a painting of his shop in Derby Road, the work of Cambridge painter Philip Martin. The new owner, Mike North, will be sticking to Basil's recipe and methods. 83 02 22

1983 04 29

A much-heralded district heating scheme which was installed in 234 council houses and flats at Lichfield Road and Neville Road is being scrapped after only 10 years. The pipes which are buried deep underground leak. There were claims it would be much cheaper but tenants said their homes were unnecessarily hot, giving 70 degrees in living rooms and 65 in bedrooms when temperatures outside were freezing. It will be replaced by individual central heating units in each property. 83 04 29 p9

1983 10 04

Coleridge soccer club who earned a place in the Guinness Book of Records by going 28 years since their formation in 1954 without a booking have hit trouble with a referee. In the reserve team match with Romsey they lost their record of good behaviour. Twice over. Two players were cautioned. But they may retain their place in the Book as nobody is aware of any other club with such a long record. 83 10 04 p1

1984 03 21

A back garden in Perne Road has become a makeshift aircraft factory. Two plane enthusiasts, Peter Fabish and Andy Crumphorn have been chiselling, sawing and shaping the sheet metal, struts and spars which will eventually become a Soneral light racing plane capable of looping the loop and acrobatic flying. They intend to find a farmer's field from which to fly it. 84 03 21 p7

1984 11 20

Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million. 84 11 20 p1

1984 12 05

KP Professional Sales started in 1968 when its position on King's Parade was ideal for building up business with university departments. But it outgrew its space in the KP Camera Shop, moving to Sussex Street and then Quayside before opening new premises in Clifton Road. It supplies Government departments, the armed forces and a host of professional photographers who need a vital piece of equipment at the last minute. There is a lot of new electronic equipment but as far as taking pictures is concerned Ian Bedson, the managing director, doesn't envisage any major innovation. 84 12 05 & a

1985 03 01

Sir Clive Sinclair is taking a £3 million high-tech centre as part of a major expansion of his Cambridge-based research company. The present headquarters at Willis Road is bursting at the seams so he is moving to the Camtec Centre off Rustat Road. Other high-tech companies in the area include Cambridge Electronic Industries, Acornsoft and Logica. Sinclair this week launched a big advertising campaign for its £100 pocket TV and hopes to sell 200,000 units of their QL computers in . 85 03 01a

1985 03 27

Back in the 1950s when Freddie Kingdon announced plans to take a party of Coleridge Boys to the Lake District on their first ever school trip, his colleagues thought he was mad. They stayed in wooden huts and took bales of straw with them in the bus to make pillows or straw mattresses to sleep on. Each day boys walked miles over the Fells, sometimes being left to find their way to destinations using their survival skills. "We were so well equipped that we could have spent the night out in the snow, and my biggest regret is that we never did", he said. After his retirement in 1966 Mr Kingdon continued taking parties there for another five years. 85 03 27a

1985 05 10

Ask Ted Taylor how many times the siren went in Cambridge during the war and he will answer straight away – 269. He was an air-raid warden and would trot off to his post at the end of the street each time they sounded. He covered the Roseford Road area with seven other wardens, making sure there was a total blackout. One memory is of the German prisoners-of-war who built concrete roads outside prefabs which later made way for Molewood Close and Birdwood Close. Ted has given away his steel helmet and mislaid his gasmask, but he still has the stirrup pump with which he was issued. 85 05 10b

1985 05 10

Messrs Richard Larkinson Ltd has warehouses and sidings equipped with modern lifting equipment at Station Works, Hills Road to load non-ferrous metal direct on rail wagons. The family originated in Biggleswade dealing in rabbit skins then diversified into household rags using imported labour from the London area. Richard Larkinson started his business in Baldock in 1958, establishing a branch at Cottenham in 1972. Today they purchase and process all grades of scrap and export to Germany in their own company vehicles, returning with wine for their associated company, Fen Vinters Ltd. 85 05 10

1985 12 10

Morley Memorial Primary School has been waiting for improvements since the beginning of the Second World War. It suffers from leaking roofs and a totally inadequate school hall. Now parents fear that the County Council plans to sell property at 100 Blinco Grove for building development. It is densely populated area with virtually no playing space and the school uses the grounds for infants' sports, nature trails and other functions. Parents hope to form an action committee to oppose the suggestion. 85 12 10

1986 02 21

V-Cars of Perne Road have been appointed Cambridge's first dealers for Spanish company Seat's new car range. Prices for Ibiza models fitted with rear seat belts and laminated windscreen as standard equipment range from £3,995 up to £5,569 for the 1.5GLX. "The cars are exceptionally good value for money and I think we will sell a lot of them" said the manager. 86 02 21a

1986 04 02

Papworth Hospital, Britain's premier heart transplant centre, is to be replaced by the end of the decade. Health chiefs are considering upgrading the ancient buildings which date back 40 years to TB Isolation days, moving the entire hospital to Hinchingsbrooke or rebuilding it on a quite separate site. An earlier suggestion that Papworth could be moved to the Addenbrooke's Hospital site has been put on one side because of the present congestion on the Hills Road site. Its major function is as a heart and chest disease centre, not a heart transplant unit and many of the heart physicians refuse to take part in the transportation programme 86 04 02

1986 12 08

Controversial plans to build a high-tech office block on the site of the old Eastern Counties Bus Station in Hills Road have been given Government approval, despite fierce council opposition. The Stetchworth-based property development company Unex Group can construct a three-storey office

block. But alternative proposals for a four-storey block and sheltered housing, scorned by the council as 'a geriatric ghetto', have been dismissed. 86 12 08a

1987 12 08

Businessmen behind a proposed £1m ski and leisure complex at Cherry Hinton have pledged to work with conservationists to preserve wildlife on the site at Lime Kiln Hill. If built it would feature the longest dry ski slope in England, a toboggan run, ski-hire facilities, a play area, pet's corner and a lake. But the end nearest to houses in Queen Edith's Way would remain a nature reserve. However some residents fear the development would be the 'thin end of the wedge' 87 12 08

1988 05 17

Netherhall & Bar Hill schools use computers for local history projects 88 05 17 & a

1988 06 23

The very latest, sophisticated machinery is being installed in the Post Office's new sorting office in Clifton Road. Mill Road became a Mechanised Letter Office in 1972 but its technology is now in need of replacement. Conditions for the 650 staff are cramped and noisy. Now high-speed sorting machines will hold 16,000 items an hour and Mill Road will be refurbished to act as delivery centre for mail coming into Cambridge. 88 06 23a

1988 09 14

Mills & Reeve Francis solicitors take over old Cambus depot site, Hills Road 88 09 14 c

1989 03 15

The new £5.5 million mechanised letter office in Clifton Road was built to cope with the area's rapidly increasing volumes of mail. Letters are handled by some of the latest sorting technology including machines which operate at a rate of 25,000 an hour and has scope for expansion so it can continue to grow with the city. It was formally opened by TV personality Anne Gregg, presenter of "Holiday '89". Later she waved off a special train to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the travelling post office. 89 03 15

1989 05 05

A lifetime's work educating pupils at Morley Memorial primary school was rewarded when the former headmistress laid a foundation stone for a new £500,000 building project. Miss Dorothy Hurst, who retired as head two years ago after 35 years teaching at the school, laid the stone in the walls of a new school hall for the 420 pupils in Blinco Grove. The project also includes a community room, two new classrooms and major improvements to the school. Work should be completed in time for its 90th anniversary in January next year 89 05 05a

1989 09 19

Harold Ridgeon was one of Cambridge's most famous self-made men. From humble beginnings, he graduated from Cambridge University and began his own business in 1927 with a couple of men and an agreement to build a pair of houses in Perne Road. His success was such that in 1936 he was able to purchase William Sindall, an old-established Cambridge builder. During the war they took on responsibility for airfields and defence work and today the company has a turnover of £60 million a year. His other business interests included Abington Farms, W.J. Atkins meat producers, the Gonville Hotel and the Cambridge Building Society. He was also chairman of Cambridge City Football Club for many years. 89 09 19

1989 10 01

The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day.

Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01

1989 10 24

More than £200,000 has been paid in compensation to 16 Cambridge residents who bought their 'Unity' concrete homes from the city council and later found the buildings had major structural defects. The houses in the Queen Edith's and Coleridge areas were quickly built of pre-fabricated concrete in the 1950s to help beat the housing crisis. But major structural defects had gone undetected. Then some tenants found they were not eligible for compensation because of a legal slip-up by the city council. 89 10 24

1989 11 30

Maps and plans which have lain forgotten for 20 years may save ratepayers £500,000. They show a drainage system which was laid, but probably never used, in the Gunhild Way, Wulfstan Way and Godwin Way areas in the 1950s. Council engineers did not know of the existence of the network of pipes until elderly people told them. Now they may use it to combat a constant flooding problem in hundreds of gardens. For years the residents have complained their back gardens are frequently under many inches of water. 89 11 30

1990 01 25

Today's squatters are usually the young and single who do not qualify to go on council housing waiting lists. But after the war couples with children occupied empty houses in Jesus Lane and Parkside that had been requisitioned by the army. Then one family moved into Nissen huts in the grounds of a house in Hills Road and another into a four-storey property in Portugal Place. From then on more huts or houses were occupied daily. Then pre-fabricated steel houses were erected in Lichfield Road and Trumpington. They were meant to be temporary but some were lived in until the 1970s - 90 01 25c

1990 01 26

Plans to develop the site of the old Cattle Market into a light industrial estate met an angry response. But now it has been transformed into the Clifton Road Industrial estate with 56 units providing jobs for several hundred people. There is ample car parking and good office accommodation. The estate is fronted by the attractive Clifton Court office complex. Situated alongside the railway station, close to the city centre with park and ride facilities on its doorstep it has good access to major roads. With its landscaping it provides an industrially useful estate and a pleasant working environment for employees 90 01 26c

1990 02 15

The Junction, Cambridge's long-awaited new venue centre got off to a flying start. DJ John Peel cut his way through yards of studio tape wrapped all the way round the hexagonal building in Clifton Road. Riots four years ago highlighted the lack of facilities for younger people. The Junction – with its 400 seater auditorium, exhibition space, café-car and rehearsal rooms – was the city council's response. It is Britain's first purpose-built music and arts centre for young people. 90 02 14b, c. Laser-light show – 90 02 15e

1990 03 12

W.P. (Freddie) Kingdon, who was headmaster at Coleridge Boys School from 1947 to 1966 still attends school regularly – only now as a pupil at art classes. He joined as a teacher of PE in 1936 before becoming head in 1947. During the war he was put in charge of the 'Ringleaders' – the naughtiest boys. This was made easier as corporal punishment was still in use and he always allowed the boy to decide how many times they were caned. Later he organised courses for pupils who had to stay an extra year when leaving age was raised from 15 to 16 in 1966. He ran courses on drugs, drink and addiction and organised the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme – 90 03 12b

1990 10 22

Leica Cambridge, the former Cambridge Instrument Company to make 70 redundant at Clifton Rd factory – 90 10 22a